IN THE CLAIMS

The following list of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the present application:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Cancelled).

9.(Currently Amended) Device for authenticating the taking of pictures made up of digital data comprising a picture taking apparatus ~~and a~~ associated with detachable security elements specific to users, each detachable security element comprising a circuit associated with a secret key K specific to that security element and carrying out the signing of at least part of the digital data to give an encrypted output digital data, the security element being connected to the picture taking apparatus through an interface allowing a bi-directional transfer of data. ~~wherein the security element is a~~

~~detachable element comprising a circuit associated with a secret key K1 giving output digital data,~~

~~which are a signature of digital data at the input, the detachable element and the associated secret key~~

~~K1 being specific to a user, this detectable element connecting up to the picture taking apparatus by~~

~~an interface circuit provided in the picture taking apparatus.~~

10. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 9, wherein the detachable element incorporates

a hashing circuit.

11. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 9, wherein the detachable element is a chip

card.

12. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 11 ~~9~~, wherein the picture taking apparatus further

comprises a multiplexing circuit and a circuit for hashing at least one first fraction of the digital data

in such a way as to generate a first hashed datum, the circuit associated with the secret key K1 of the

chip card carrying out the processing of the first hashed datum in such a way as to generate a

signature of the first hashed datum, the signature and the digital data being transmitted to the

multiplexing circuit so as to constitute a multiplexed signal.

13. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 11 ~~10~~, wherein the picture taking apparatus

further comprises a multiplexing circuit, the chip card comprising a hashing circuit carrying out the

hashing of at least a first fraction of the digital data originating from the picture taking apparatus in

such a way as to generate a first hashed datum and the first hashed datum is processed in the circuit

associated with the secret key K1 in such a way as to generate a signature of the first hashed datum,

the signature emanating from the chip card and the digital data being transmitted to the multiplexing

circuit in such a way as to constitute a multiplexed signal.

14. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 9, wherein the picture taking apparatus is a

camera head.

15. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 9, wherein the picture taking apparatus is a

photographic apparatus.

16. (currently amended) System comprising a device for authenticating the taking of pictures made

up of digital data comprising a picture taking apparatus and a security element carrying out the

signing of at least part of the digital data, the security element being a detachable element comprising

a circuit associated with secret key K1, the detachable element and the associated secret key K1 being

specific to a user, this detachable element connecting up to the picture taking apparatus by an

interface circuit provided in the picture taking apparatus and a device for ~~authentication~~

authenticating digital data coming from the device for authenticating the taking of pictures, said

device for authenticating the digital data_ comprising a demultiplexer for separating the digital data

and the signature, a circuit with public key K2 for calculating a new datum on the basis of the

signature, a circuit for hashing at least one second fraction of the digital data emanating from the

demultiplexer in such a way as to generate a second hashed datum, a comparison circuit for

comparing the new datum with the second hashed datum in such a way as to constitute a signal

making it possible to verify the authenticity of the digital data.